

CLAIMS

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What is claimed is:

1. A method for providing a collaborative decision platform adapted to run on a computer, comprising the steps of:
 - 3 (a) executing an application capable of performing decision logic;
 - 4 (b) retrieving information from a database in accordance with the decision logic;
 - 5 (c) receiving information from a user in accordance with the decision logic utilizing a user interface;
 - 6 (d) processing the information utilizing the decision logic; and
 - 8 (e) wherein steps (a)-(d) are carried out by a collaborative decision platform capable of accomplishing steps (b)-(d) for different purposes by executing different applications each capable of performing different decision logic.
- 1 2. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the collaborative decision platform communicates with the application through a standard interface protocol.
- 1 3. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the information is retrieved and received via a network.
- 1 4. The method as recited in claim 3, wherein the network is the Internet.
- 1 5. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the purpose is selected from the group consisting of real estate-related, medical-related, corporate-related, and financial-related.
- 1 6. The method as recited in claim 1, and further comprising the step of collecting data from the decision logic for generating visual displays of a decision hierarchy and an influence diagram.

1 7. The method as recited in claim 6, wherein the user is prompted to approve
2 the visual displays of the decision hierarchy and the influence diagram.

1 8. The method as recited in claim 7, wherein the data includes (a) policies that
2 form boundary conditions associated with the decision logic, (b) strategic
3 decisions to be made, (c) values that are important to the user, (d)
4 uncertainties that may impact the values, and a relationship between (a)-(d).

1 9. The method as recited in claim 6, and further comprising the step of creating
2 a strategy table using the data.

1 10. The method as recited in claim 8, and further comprising the step of
2 assessing the uncertainties for analysis purposes.

1 11. The method as recited in claim 1, and further comprising the step of
2 generating a tornado diagram and decision sensitivity output displays.

1 12. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the decision logic provides
2 potential feasible hybrid themes.

1 13. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the steps (b)-(d) are carried out
2 using universal modules capable of interfacing with different applications.

1 14. A computer program product for providing a collaborative decision platform
2 adapted to run on a computer, comprising:
3 (a) computer code for executing an application capable of performing decision
4 logic;
5 (b) computer code for retrieving information from a database in accordance with
6 the decision logic;

7 (c) computer code for receiving information from a user in accordance with the
8 decision logic utilizing a user interface;

9 (d) computer code for processing the information utilizing the decision logic;
10 and

11 (e) wherein computer code segments (a)-(d) are carried out by a collaborative
12 decision platform capable of executing computer code segments (b)-(d) for
13 different purposes by executing different applications each capable of
14 performing different decision logic.

1 15. The computer program product as recited in claim 14, wherein the
2 collaborative decision platform communicates with the application through a
3 standard interface protocol.

1 16. The computer program product as recited in claim 14, wherein the
2 information is retrieved and received via a network.

1 17. The computer program product as recited in claim 16, wherein the network is
2 the Internet.

1 18. The computer program product as recited in claim 14, wherein the purpose is
2 selected from the group consisting of real estate-related, medical-related,
3 corporate-related, and financial-related.

1 19. The computer program product as recited in claim 14, and further comprising
2 computer code for collecting data from the decision logic for generating
3 visual displays of a decision hierarchy and an influence diagram.

1 20. The computer program product as recited in claim 19, wherein the user is
2 prompted to approve the visual displays of the decision hierarchy and the
3 influence diagram.

1 21. The computer program product as recited in claim 20, wherein the data
2 includes (a) policies that form boundary conditions associated with the
3 decision logic, (b) strategic decisions to be made, (c) values that are
4 important to the user, (d) uncertainties that may impact the values, and a
5 relationship between (a)-(d).

1 22. The computer program product as recited in claim 19, and further comprising
2 computer code for creating a strategy table using the data.

1 23. The computer program product as recited in claim 22, and further comprising
2 computer code for assessing the uncertainties for analysis purposes.

1 24. The computer program product as recited in claim 14, and further comprising
2 computer code for generating a tornado diagram and decision sensitivity
3 output displays.

1 25. The computer program product as recited in claim 14, wherein the decision
2 logic provides potential feasible hybrid themes.

1 26. The computer program product as recited in claim 14, wherein computer
2 code segments (b)-(d) are carried out using universal modules capable of
3 interfacing with different applications.

1 27. A system for providing a collaborative decision platform adapted to run on a
2 computer, comprising:
3 (a) logic for executing an application capable of performing decision logic;
4 (b) logic for retrieving information from a database in accordance with the
5 decision logic;
6 (c) logic for receiving information from a user in accordance with the decision
7 logic utilizing a user interface;
8 (d) logic for processing the information utilizing the decision logic; and

9 (e) wherein logic elements (a)-(d) are carried out by a collaborative decision
10 platform capable of performing logic elements (b)-(d) for different purposes
11 by executing different applications each capable of performing different
12 decision logic.

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